

# Consensus Statement of Priority Actions for the Promotion of Global Biosecurity

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The undersigned parties consider the following five issues to be immediate priorities for the global community for the purpose of enhancing global biosecurity. Some of these actions are best undertaken by governments and some can be best implemented through International Government Organizations and NGOs. However, these priority issues should be integrated through a mechanism that links them together and facilitates action toward their goals, for example, through a Global Compact or similar global initiative.

- Action 1: Sharing Baseline Information  
Development of a baseline of information on global biological holdings, research facilities, and infectious disease patterns. Specifically this could include identification and alignment of all existing global databases of pathogen stockpiles, research facility and collection storage locations, inventories of biological materials and equipment, and infectious disease monitoring and patterns. This network should be connected and integrated by an information technology architecture that will allow it to be utilized for the benefit of global public health and security while protecting sensitive and proprietary information.
- Action 2: Education and Awareness Raising Promotion  
Greater education and heightened awareness promotion on the nature of the biological threat in the scientific, academic, and policy communities. The potential for the accidental or intentional misapplication of biological technology needs to be recognized while protecting the enormous benefits the life sciences provide to humankind.
- Action 3: Interdisciplinary Coordination  
Interdisciplinary coordination and information-sharing in support of the improvement of global biosecurity. The threat posed by the misapplication of the life sciences cuts across numerous sectors, including public health, science, technology, law enforcement, and private industry. Therefore greater cross-communication among the diverse stakeholder sectors is essential to improve information flow and promote awareness of the concerns and major issues in each sector. Yearly global conventions on global biosecurity featuring a broad cross section of life sciences stakeholders should be convened.
- Action 4: Engaging the Private Sector  
Engaging in a dialogue with the private sector on the risks posed by the potential misapplication of biological materials and advanced scientific techniques while emphasizing the need to protect the scientific and economic value created in the biotechnology and life sciences fields. This dialogue must advance – not hinder – the vast benefits biotechnology can contribute to the promotion of public health and raise the quality of life globally.
- Action 5: Promoting Compliance with Harmonized Standards and Practices  
Development and acceptance of globally harmonized biosecurity standards, improved gathering of intelligence, and better integration of law enforcement to enhance the quality, rapidity, and effectiveness of efforts to prevent and respond to biological dangers.

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